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IAC-M-225
10 January 1956

INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting Held in
IAC Conference Room, Administration Building
Central Intelligence Agency, at 1045, 10 January 1956

Director of Central Intelligence
Allen W. Dulles
Presiding

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. W. Park Armstrong, Special Assistant for Intelligence,
Department of State
Major General Ridgely Gaither, Assistant Chief of Staff,
Intelligence, Department of the Army
Rear Admiral Carl F. Espe, Director of Naval Intelligence,
Department of the Navy
Major General John A. Samford, Director of Intelligence,
Headquarters, United States Air Force
Colonel Robert Totten, acting for Deputy Director for Intelligence,
The Joint Staff
Mr. Harry S. Traynor, Atomic Energy Commission representative
to the IAC
Mr. Alan H. Belmont, Assistant Director, Federal Bureau of
Investigation

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1. Approval of Minutes
5 January Meeting
(IAC-M-224)

Approved as written.

2. Watch Committee Report
No. 283

Noted.

3. Priority National Scientific
and Technical Intelligence
Objectives
(IAC-D-50/8, 27 December 1955)

a. Approved as written.

b. This was viewed as a commendable effort, which might be extended to other fields, to derive objectives in a particular field based on the over-all Priority National Intelligence Objectives.

4. Release of NIE 13-56
Chinese Communist Capabilities
and Probable Courses of Action
Through 1960

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5. Intelligence Aspects of Proposed
Exchanges of Technical
Delegations with the USSR

a. The Chairman stated that he had received a request from Mr. Hoover, Undersecretary of State, for the views of the IAC on intelligence aspects of a proposed exchange of highway and

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IAC-M-225
10 January 1956

transportation delegations with the USSR. Mr. Armstrong then announced that he had just been informed that the State Department was notifying the Russian Embassy that arrangements could not be completed to permit the entry of the Soviet delegation at this time.

b. The Chairman requested the members' views on the general subject of exchanging technical delegations with the USSR, inasmuch as the NSC will consider the question of the net gains to the US from such exchanges. The Army and Navy members said that, provided a net gain accrued to the US and proper precautions were taken regarding US internal security, they were in favor of such exchanges. Mr. Belmont stated that the FBI had in the past opposed Soviet visits on grounds of US internal security. The question of gain for the US from such exchanges must therefore include a careful consideration of attendant internal security problems. It was noted that the internal security problem would probably be referred by the NSC to the IIC. The Joint Staff member noted that studies made by the JIG had shown that whereas Soviet delegations in the past had access to many people and installations in the US, our delegations have been severely restricted in their visits to the USSR. Mr. Armstrong said that there was no unanimity of opinion in the State Department on this question. He said that an IAC study of the problem from the intelligence standpoint would be useful to the NSC Planning Board, which would also receive reports from other agencies concerning other aspects of the proposed exchanges. General Samford stated that it should be borne in mind that adverse US action might bring reprisals which would further restrict US representatives in the Soviet Union.

c. The Chairman then reported that the Department of Commerce was doubtful of the possibility of a net gain for the US from the proposed exchanges. In his view, provided the problem of US internal security was satisfactorily met, there were important gains for US intelligence to be derived from such visits to the USSR.

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IAC-M-225
10 January 1956

d. The Chairman then suggested, and the members agreed, that an ad hoc committee be appointed to study the intelligence aspects of the problem. He requested the members to inform the Secretary of the personnel they would designate to the committee.

6. African Estimates Scheduled
for 1956

Agreed to schedule an NIE on Tropical Africa for May, and one on the Union of South Africa for the third quarter of 1956.

7. NIE 53-56
Probable Developments in
Afghanistan's International
Position

Approved as amended.

8. NIE 12-56
Probable Developments in
the European Satellites
Through 1960

Approved as amended. (See Secretary's Note 3 below.)

9. Executive Session

At 1245 the Chairman held an executive session with the members.

Adjournment: 1315



Secretary

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SECRET

IAC-M-225
10 January 1955

5. Validity Study of NIE 53-54, "The Outlook for Afghanistan" and Post-Mortem on NIE 53-56, "Probable Developments in Afghanistan's International Position." The Board of National Estimates and the IAC representatives are agreed that it is unnecessary to have a separate validity study of NIE 53-54, which the present estimate will supplement rather than supersede. They also consider a post-mortem on intelligence deficiencies to be unnecessary at this time because the basic deficiencies, most of them inherent in the situation, are already the subject of intensified collection efforts.

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